

entering quite within the sun's disc. When he had advanced two or three of his diameters, the clouds rapidly thickened, and I saw him no more.

"I take this opportunity of stating, that a late redetermination of the longitude of my Observatory depending upon the lately determined longitude of the Liverpool Observatory, inclines me to adopt finally $11^m 47^s.34$ as my longitude west of Greenwich, which differs scarcely a quarter of a second from that given in my paper contained in the forthcoming volume of the Society's *Memoirs*.

"The latitude I have also redetermined lately by transits of seven stars over the prime vertical, giving $53^\circ 25' 3''.5$ as the mean result."

VIII. Observations of the Transit of *Mercury* made at Aylesbury by Thomas Dell, Esq. Communicated by Dr. Lee.

"*Transit of Mercury*.—The first contact of the two limbs was invisible, the sun being obscured by heavy clouds; but almost immediately afterwards it broke through them, and the interior contact of the limbs was well observed at $4^h 18^m 33^s$ mean time. The sun was covered by light fleecy clouds, through which it was distinctly visible, and the discs of both the sun and *Mercury* were most beautifully and sharply defined until $5^h 12^m$, when the whole sky became densely overcast, and continued so until after sunset. The time of interior contact is, I believe, accurate to a second, as the error of the chronometer had been determined at the sun's transit at noon."

The President then announced that, in pursuance of a resolution of the Council, which had been duly intimated to the Fellows, as required by the Bye-laws, the business of the Ordinary Meeting was now concluded, and that a Special General Meeting would immediately be held to take into consideration a subject, of which due notice had been given to the Fellows by the following circular, which he requested the Secretary to read:—

"Somerset House, June 5th, 1845.

"SIR,—I have the honour of notifying to you that in pursuance of a Resolution of the Council, passed on Friday, the 23d of May last, a Special General Meeting of this Society will be held at the Society's apartments on Friday, the 13th day of June instant, immediately after the business of the Ordinary Meeting to be held on that day is concluded, for the purpose of taking into consideration and deciding upon a recommendation of the Council to suspend upon that occasion the Bye-laws relative to the Election of Fellows, and to elect as Fellows of this Society the remaining Members of the Mathematical Society (now reduced to nineteen in number, of whom three are already Fellows), without payment of the usual Admission Fees and Annual Contributions (or compositions in lieu thereof), the Mathematical Society having announced

its resolution to transfer its valuable Library, with its Records and Memorials, to the Royal Astronomical Society.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

“ROBERT MAIN, Secretary.”

It was then moved by Professor De Morgan, and seconded by Mr. Galloway, and resolved unanimously,—

“That the recommendation of the Council in the circular now read be approved and adopted by this Meeting; and that, on the Library, Records, and Memorials of the Mathematical Society being delivered over to this Society, the following sixteen gentlemen, Members of the Mathematical Society, be admitted Fellows of the Royal Astronomical Society without payment of the admission fees or annual contributions required by the Bye-laws, viz.:

William Wilson, Esq.	Thomas K. White, Esq.
Robert Graham, Esq.	Philip James Chabot, Esq.
Robert Porrett, Esq.	Charles O. Dayman, Esq.
James Scott Bowerbank, Esq.	Thomas Cooper, Esq.
Julius Page, Esq.	John Walton, Esq.
John Williams, Esq.	Jacob Hoyer, Esq.
Henry De Berckem, Esq.	Robert Arthur Graham, Esq.
Alfred White, Esq.	Thomas Taylor, Esq.

and that the remaining three Members of the Mathematical Society, viz.:

Benjamin Gompertz, Esq.	John Lee, Esq.
John James Downes, Esq.	

or such of them as are liable to the payment of Annual Contributions, be exempted in future from such liability.”